

**PATENT APPLICATION**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of

Docket No: Q77369

USUI, Minoru, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/662,397

Group Art Unit: Unknown

Confirmation No.: 1476

Examiner: Unknown

Filed: September 16, 2003

For: LIQUID CONSUMPTION STATUS DETECTING METHOD, LIQUID CONTAINER,  
AND INK CARTRIDGE

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

Because only U.S. patents are cited, no copies have been provided..

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not


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**Atty Dkt No. Q77369**

waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: April 15, 2004

*Complete if Known*

*(use as many sheets as necessary)*

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of

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Application Number	10/662,397
Confirmation Number	1476
Filing Date	September 16, 2003
First Named Inventor	USUI, Minoru
Art Unit	Unknown
Examiner Name	Unknown
Attorney Docket Number	Q77369

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
		US 4,570,482		2/18/1986	Murata et al.
		US 5,179,389	A	1/12/1993	Arai et al.
		US 5,233,369	A	8/3/1993	Carlotta et al.
		US 5,841,454	A	11/24/1998	Hall et al.
		US 6,003,966	A	12/21/1999	Ahn
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			

[illegible][illegible]**Date Considered**

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.